

AMENDMENT

U.S. Appln. No. 09/856,035

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following cancellations, amendments and/or additions.

Claims 1-31. (Cancelled).

Claim 32. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~treatment of~~ reducing plasma fibrinogen in a mammal ~~susceptible to a condition associated with a fibrinogen disease~~ in need thereof, the method comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound present in *Curcuma* rhizomes.

Claim 33. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 32, wherein ~~the pharmaceutical composition comprises~~ said at least one compound is present in the form of a *Curcuma* extract.

Claim 34. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 32, wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises curcuminoids.

Claim 35. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 32, wherein ~~the pharmaceutical composition is obtainable~~ said at least compound is obtained by extracting *Curcuma* rhizomes using a solubilizing lipophilic compound.

Claim 36. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 35, wherein said lipophilic compound is ethanol.

Claim 37. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 35, wherein said ~~pharmaceutical composition further comprises~~ at least one compound is in the form of an aqueous extract of *Curcuma*.

Claim 38. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 32, wherein said method results in a reduction of Apolipoprotein B/Apolipoprotein A-1 quotient in said mammal.

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U.S. Appln. No. 09/856,035

Claim 39. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 32, wherein said *Curcuma* rhizomes are *Curcuma longa* rhizomes.

Claim 40. (Currently Amended) The method according to Claim 32, wherein said ~~fibrinogen disease is~~ amammal has cardiovascular disease.